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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

BRAZIL.

Report of the vaccination institute during the year 1900—Use of other serums.

RIO DE JANEIRO, February 21, 1901.

SIR: In the vaccination institute there were performed 2,022 vaccinations and 364 revaccinations, using the vaccine matter directly from a cow. The vaccinations all took. The result of the revaccinations it was not possible to ascertain, as the revaccinated persons did not report.

By employees of the vaccination institute there were visited 1,950 private houses, where 8,471 vaccinations and revaccinations were performed; 276 streets with 1,020 tenement houses, boarding houses, manufactories, where 6,085 children and adults were vaccinated and revaccinated.

Ninety-three thousand one hundred and nineteen tubes of glycerinated vaccine have been prepared and distributed. The facility with which one may obtain from the institute tubes of good vaccine, represents one of the most valuable services which the institute renders to the states of Brazil.

With the vaccination institute is connected the bacteriological laboratory for the examination of suspect cases of diphtheria and distribution of the respective serum. During the year 1900, several diagnostical examinations of suspect cases of angina were made, some with positive, others with negative result.

There were distributed 806 bottles of serum, received directly from the Pasteur Institute, in virtue of a combination with the municipality there being 559 antidiphtheritic serum, 185 antistreptococcic serum and 62 antitetanic serum.

Two observations in regard to the results of the applications of those sera have been communicated to the institute. The few physicians, who have communicated their observations have been very much pleased with the serum antidiphtheritico when used at the proper time. The antitetanic serum seems to possess in more serious cases a greater preventive effect than the usual treatment and the antistreptococcic serum has been efficacious in infected cases, puerperal infection, lymphangitis and erysipelas.

The new established laboratory for the fabrication of antiplague serum at Manguinhos, that commenced its preliminary works on January 10, with mallein-injection on 3 horses of the police brigade, had also been annexed to the vaccine institute; but on May 24, 1900, it was placed under the control of the Federal Government, being since then under the direction of the general board of health (directoria geral de saude publica), by which its name was changed to "Institut Serotherapico Federal," with the object of performing, in benefit to the country, very important duties.

Respectfully,

W. HAVELBURG,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
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